

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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MORTON TO ADDRESS SYMPOSIUM ON ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES

Secretary of the Interior Rogers C. B. Morton will address the Symposium on Endangered and Threatened Species of North America at the Statler Hilton Hotel, Washington, D. C., at 9:45 a.m. Tuesday, June 11.

The Symposium, June 11 through 14, is sponsored by the Wolf Sanctuary of St. Louis, Mo., under the direction of Dr. R. Marlin Perkins -- probably best known for his appearances on network television's "Wild Kingdom" series. It has been convened to assess the status of North America's endangered and threatened plant and animal species; what is being done and will be done to protect them; and how to generate more interest in them throughout the Nation.

In addition to Dr. Perkins and Secretary Morton, other well-known participants will include actor James Stewart; writer Cleveland Amory, who also heads the Fund for Animals, Inc.; Ambassador Francis L. Kellogg, president of the World Wildlife Fund; and renowned authorities such as ecologist Dr. Durward L. Allen of Purdue University.

Secretary Morton, a strong advocate of efforts to protect endangered species, will emphasize the common interest in preserving forms of life that are in jeopardy, and will describe what is being done to implement such recent legislation as the Endangered Species Act of 1973 at home and abroad. His Department includes the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the agency principally charged with responsibility for endangered and threatened species, and other major Federal land-administering agencies including the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

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